

Message Text

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FOR SISCO

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT TO SECSTATE INFO RABAT NOUAKCHOTT
ALGIERS TRIPOLI TUNIS USCINCEUR CINCUSNAVEUR FOSIF ROTA COMSIXTHFLT
DTG O R 291524Z OCT 75 FM MADRID

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SP, SS, MO, UN

SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA: CURFEW IMPOSED IN SAHARA AS INTERNAL
SAHARASITUATION BECOMES MORE CONFUSED

REF: MADRID 7512 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: CURFEW WAS IMPOSED IN THE SAHARA OCT 28 WITH REPORTS
OF EXTENSIVE MILITARY DEPLOYMENT IN EL AIUUN. F POLISARIO
INDEPENDENCE FRONT MEMBERS REPORTEDLY HAVE LEFT EL APUUN TO
CONCENTRATE IN UNKNOWN LOCATIONS IN DESERT. SPANISH MEDIA
REPORT THAT LIBYAN LEADER QADHAFI RECEIVED F POLISARIO
LEADER OCT 28. END SUMMARY

1. MILITARY AUTHORITIES IMPOSED AT A.M. TO 6 P.M. CURFEW IN
THE SPANISH SAHARA OCT 28. PRESS ANNOUNCED OCT 25 MEETING OF
SPANISH THEATRE COMMAND TO DISCUSS MEASURES TO COPE WITH
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GREEN MARCHERS.

2. CORRESPONDENTS IN EL AIUUN REPORT EXTENSIVE MILITARY ACTIVITY AND DEPLOYMENT THROUGHOUT CITY AND THAT F POLISARIO INDEPENDENCE FRONT FOLLOWERS HAVE TAKEN TO THE DESERT TO CONCENTRATE.

3. CORRESPONDENTS IN EL AIUUN ALSO REPORT THAT EXODUS OF CIVILIANS AND CLOSING OF SHOPS IS CONTINUING APACE. THERE IS REPORTEDLY CONSIDERABLE APPREHENSION AMONG THE SAHARAN POPULATION AND ONE CORRESPONDENT WROTE THAT HIS CAR WAS STONED BY UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS. SPANISH AUTHORITIES ARE OBVIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT MAINTAINING SECURITY AND PREVENTING DISORDERS, PARTICULARLY HOSTILE ACTIONS TOWARDS SPANIARDS WHOM THE F POLISARIO AND OTHER SAHARANS HAVE CRITICIZED RECENTLY FOR GIVING THE APPEARANCE OF A PRECIPITOUS SEARCH FOR A BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH MOROCCO.

4. ACCORDING TO ONE PRESS REPORT, LIBYAN LEADER QADHAFI MET WITH A REP OF THE F POLISARIO OCT 28. EARLIER SPECULATION HAD SUGGESTED LIBYA AS THE SOURCE OF MONEY AND PERHAPS ARMAMENTS WHICH WERE CHANNELED THROUGH ALGERIA TO THE F POLISARIO. OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY EFE REPORTS FROM BEIRUT THAT THE DEMOCRATIC FRONT FOR THE LIDERATION OF PALESTINE (FDLP) ISSUED A STATEMENT SUPPORTING SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE SAHARANS CLAIMING THAT AMERICAN ACTIONS IN THE MAGHREB WERE DESIGNED TO FERMENT DISSENSION AMONG ARAB PEOPLES OF NORTH AFRICA TO DISTRACT THEM FROM THEIR PRINCIPAL STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAEL.

5. GENERAL DLIMI, MILITARY GOVERNOR OF THE SOUTHERN REGION OF MOROCCO, TOLD EFE THAT GREEN MARCH VOLUNTEERS WOULD ENTER SAHARAN TERRITORY UNARMED BUT THAT THE MOROCCAN ARMY WOULD BE PREPARED TO REPEL ANY ATTACK AGAINST THEM. MOROCCAN MIN OF INFORMATION, BENHIMA, REPORTEDLY TOLD THE PRESS IN MARAKESH OCT 28 THAT THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS TO BE REACHED BETWEEN SPAIN AND MOROCCO WOULD BE BACKED BY THE UN. IN THIS CONNECTION, LOCAL PRESS ALSO REPORTS RUMORS THAT A HIGH LEVEL ALGERIAN PERSONALITY IS EXPECTED AT ANY MOMENT IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MADRID.

6. PRESS OF COURSE HAS FOCUSED ATTENTION ON WALDHEIM'S VISIT AND ALMOST SIMULTANEOUS ARRIVAL IN MADRID OF MOROCCAN FONMIN LARAKI AND MAURITANIAN FONMIN MOUKNASS. PRESIDENT IDI AMIN'S REPRESENTATIVE, LT. COL. GODWIN SULE, ALSO DELIVERED MESSAGE ON BEHALF OF OAU TO MFA. MEANWHILE, GOS PERM REP TO UN, DE PINIES, RETURNED TO MADRID OCT 26 AND

WAS IMMEDIATELY HOSPITALIZED FOR A LUNG CONDITION.

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